

William S Creager
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Re; The proposal to drop 5

wpm code

Dear Sir,

Once again there is an effort to lower the standards of Amateur Radio and to diminish the accomplishments of those of us who worked hard to obtain our license class. Now in addition to that, they want to take away the only mode that remains exclusively used by Ham operators. I am an Amateur Extra Class Operator and at one time I was very proud the fact that I had to learn the code to accomplish that level. It was not hard for me to pass the written exam as I had the ability to memorize but to pass the 20 wpm was something that took a lot of work and effort for almost a year of daily CW contacts. Learning CW made obtaining the license even more special to me because I knew, as did my peers, the effort that it took to get it. Something worth having is worth working for is a very true statement in Amateur Radio, as it is in all walks of life.

Yes, the code is an outdated mode that no one uses any longer. It is however, the one thing that sets Amateur Radio apart from all other forms of communication. It is our language. To drop it will be just another nail in the coffin that once was an admired and respected hobby.

Already the bands have shown the impact of the lower licensing standards with the abundant of foul mouth inconsiderate and unqualified operators mirroring the CB channels. Once code is eliminated from Ham Radio, we become no different than those that have destroyed the 11 meter band.

Don't let this happen,

73 to all,

Bill Creager
KGØIT